

LYNCHBURG

(VIRGINIA)

Leading Wholesale Market in Dry Goods and Notions In the Entire South Atlantic States

Lynchburg extends to the Merchants of the South a most cordial invitation to inspect her lines

High Grade Merchandise, Low Prices, Square Dealing

THOUSANDS OF PLEASED MERCHANTS WILL ATTEST THESE FACTS

Write any of the following firms for Transportation Proposal:

GUGGENHEIMER & CO., Dry Goods and Notions
QUINN-MARSHALL CO., Dry Goods and Notions
J. W. OULD COMPANY, Dry Goods and Notions

R. S. OGLESBY CO., Notions and White Goods
WATTS BROS. CO., Notions and White Goods
W. W. COUCH CO., Notions and Hats

F. A. A.

Among the Books

"The Strength of the Weak."
By May Dixon Thacker. The Broadway Publishing Company, of New York. \$1.50.

The authoress of a new novel of Virginia life has chosen the Tidewater section of the State and Gloucester county, as the scene for the opening of her story. As Mrs. Thacker is the sister of Thomas Dixon, Jr., and the wife of the Rev. Dr. J. E. Thacker, of the Presbyterian Church, who has her present home in Norfolk, Va., her choice of setting for her romance beginning at the home of her heroine, Margy Preston, of Glen Haven, and changing for a brief while to Norfolk, must have been largely influenced by personal observation and experience.

for Thomas Dixon, Jr., owned for a number of years a beautiful Gloucester county estate and did much of his most successful literary work there.

"The Strength of the Weak" then may be considered to have the additional charm of presenting places and people that may be identified by those who can penetrate the idealization which transforms the individual under the power of the novelist's pen.

The first impression and the last made upon the reader and reviewer of Mrs. Thacker's work is its finished quality. In construction, in the grasp of her subject and the development of her book purpose, Mrs. Thacker demonstrates the ability which marks her as an artist "born, not made." The mind passes swiftly and smoothly from one series of happenings to another, the underlying motives and the psychological problems being touched upon understandingly and interwoven skillfully as to the effect they have upon the narrative.

The number of characters introduced is limited to the needs of the situations in which they figure, there being a scrupulous avoidance of anything overabundant or of dwarfing or obscuring the importance of principal factors in the story. The heroine is Margy Preston, a beautiful girl, passionately devoted to her Virginia home, Glen Haven, where generations of her people have lived and where she, an orphan, has grown into young womanhood, much as the first of the old-fashioned garden have done, under the fostering care of an uncle and aunt, and several negro retainers, among them Mammy Clo, who is the type of the faithful, capable servant woman, in her locality, of a generation or two ago. Following the traditions of her people, Margy is engaged to be married to Robert Norwood, the son of General Norwood, whose estate, Beechwood, adjoins Glen Haven. She and Robert have grown up together and

have been sweethearts from childhood. Margy Preston, however, counts for a good deal more than a mere book heroine. She represents the home-loving type which embodies the Virginia girl that is altogether contented with her surroundings, her husband, her children and her friends, one who by grace, beauty and natural wit can achieve social triumphs, but who holds aloof from them because they have nothing to do with the scheme of things, in which her heart delights. Contrasted with her and with Robert Norwood, a sensible, manly young fellow, are Julia Farwell, Louise Lloyd and Douglas Lloyd, New Englanders, who are sojourning in Virginia and boarding at Glen Haven while doing so. Miss Farwell is a restless philanthropist, interested in the negro question and social conditions in the South generally. Miss Lloyd is a much more natural and agreeable character, who is free from fads and self-delusions. She has accompanied Miss Farwell in her Southern trip for the pleasure it promises and bestows. Douglas Lloyd, a shrewd, practical New Englander, has come South to persuade Julia Farwell to abandon her ambitions and become his wife at once, representing to her the lack of motive in further delay and his great desire for a home with a wife in it. Julia, feeling sure of her power over her lover, and unwilling to relinquish at once her educational work among the negroes in which she is engaged, puts aside his suit for a year.

Douglas Lloyd is furious with her, and while he is at his worst, he meets Margy Preston. He falls in love with her and she with him. This hindering two to Miss Farwell and Robert Norwood are broken, and the first part of the story closes with their marriage at hand.

The second part of the book dwells upon the after-marriage romance, with Douglas Lloyd, his wife and children living in Norfolk. But Margy Preston, masquerading in her great grandmother's brocade gowns, slender, golden-haired and girlish, amid the surroundings where she fitted naturally and gracefully into the picture, is one thing and Margy, young and untired, with the care of a mother and motherhood upon her, and the problem of adjusting herself to difficult labor problems and to the negroes that are the products of education and so-called training, is another. Douglas Lloyd, with a love of order, does not make sufficient allowance for youth and inexperience. In Margy, Julia Farwell is at hand to widen the breach between the two. There is jealousy and mutual fault finding. Then Margy Lloyd takes her children and goes back to Glen Haven, the old Gloucester county home, and Douglas Lloyd drifts dangerously near to drowning in the hands of an experienced woman of the world, before he comes to his senses and seeks the fulfillment of his true ideals in reconciliation and reunion. Margy under the roof tree and the old-fashioned garden have done, under the fostering care of an uncle and aunt, and several negro retainers, among them Mammy Clo, who is the type of the faithful, capable servant woman, in her locality, of a generation or two ago. Following the traditions of her people, Margy is engaged to be married to Robert Norwood, the son of General Norwood, whose estate, Beechwood, adjoins Glen Haven. She and Robert have grown up together and

cent fiction to the point of tediousness and heaviness. Mrs. Thacker, the authoress of "The Strength of the Weak," has her home this winter in Norfolk, Va. She has the distinction of having written a novel that deals with Virginia of today as against the Virginia of yesterday, in which she has preserved a flavor and absolute purity of tone that serves to link past and present together with forceful and yet happy interpretation.

"The Man and the Dragon."
By Alexander Ols Little, Brown and Co., of Boston. \$1.50.

This is a story in which John Price, hard working, conscientious editor of the Carthage News, published in a New England town, defeats the political boss of Carthage, smashes the machine and inaugurates a much needed reform in the municipal affairs of the city.

The temptations that beset John Price by the way, the fact that he is under monetary obligations to the boss and that the young woman whom he loves and hopes to make his wife is the daughter of a millionaire who joins forces with the boss, render the accomplishment of his policy both difficult and doubtful.

He is sustained throughout by the confidence and encouragement of his sweetheart and of his mother, both of whom are most attractive characters with high ideals, which they carry out in their daily living. The strong affection between John Price and his mother is one of the best things in the book.

The hero of the book nearly loses his life as the result of his sturdy political fight. But he wins out in spite of all, and the concluding chapter describes his honeymoon trip, to be succeeded by useful dual work in a modest home of independence.

The book teaches a much-needed lesson as to the necessity of a cleaner, saner political code and aims in living, that make for happiness rather than useless extravagance.

"The Gilded War."
By Victor Mapes. The Neale Publishing Co., of Washington and New York. \$1.50.

Young people who are members of



MRS. MAY DIXON THACKER.
Author of "The Strength of the Weak."

wealthy New York families, whose way in life is made easy for them and devoid of any hardship whatever, are those who are the principal figures in this story of present day American life.

The book opens with a description of the Yale-Harvard football game, witnessed by a private car party who are of the class that travel "The Gilded Way." The story of how the game is won for Yale, and how Ollie Westervelt, a brother of the car party hostess, becomes the hero of the day, is told in very animated and interesting style.

The sequel of how and why the hero falls to put in an appearance at a dinner and a theatre-going enjoyed by his sister and her friends is not so agreeable, and marks the first step downward in a career that finally ruins young Westervelt's life and brings sorrow and disgrace on all connected with him.

"The Gilded War," indeed, is written for the purpose of showing how advanced American civilization, with its extravagance in living, with everything ready to hand by inheritance for the sons of fathers who have heaped up wealth tend to speed the course of their sons in every folly imaginable, to stifle their energies, vitiate their tastes and make them models of ease-loving and luxury-seeking degenerates.

The dramatic situations in the book are well written, its philosophy is very sound, and the use of words is striking, very timely and very clear.

"South African Folk Tales."
By James A. Hener, M. D. The Baker & Taylor Co., of New York. \$1.00 net.

This book embraces a collection of South African tribal tales translated from the native speech by Dr. Hener, who hopes in his introduction "that they may prove of some value to Americans, who have an interest in animals or who appreciate the folklore of other countries."

He illustrates the people whose stories appear in this volume by a Kaffir legend in regard to the distribution of animals after the creation. This is the story:

"Teco in Kaffir is the supreme being, and he had every description of stock and property. He had the use of warning. There were three nations created, the Whites, the Amakosa, or Kaffirs, and the Hottentots. A day was ap-

pointed for them to appear before Teco, to receive whatever he might apportion to each tribe. While they were assembling, a honey bird came fluttering by, and all the Hottentots ran after it, whistling and making the peculiar noise they generally do while following this wonderful little bird. Teco remonstrated with them to no purpose. He therefore denounced them as a vagrant race, who would possess no stock whatever.

"When the fine herds of cattle were brought, the Kaffirs became very much excited, one exclaiming, 'That black and white cow is mine!' and another, 'That red cow and black bull are mine!' and so on, till at last Teco, whose patience had been severely taxed by their shouts and unruly behavior, denounced them as a restless people, who would only possess cattle.

"The Whites patiently waited until they received cattle, horses, sheep and all sorts of property. Hence the Whites have got everything, the Kaffirs cattle and the Hottentots nothing."

The stories are mythological, or religious in character, and relate to man and his interests as well as to animals. Some are perverted forms of Bushman tales, that have been taken over by Hottentots or Zulus, and a few are from the Dutch. Dr. Hener is one of the first authorities on African folklore. He is descended from the earliest settlers of South Africa, served in the Boer War and is thoroughly imbued with a love for the country and its associations.

"The Story of Great Inventions."
By Elmer Ellsworth Burns, Harper and Brothers, of New York. \$1.25.

This book begins with the age of Archimedes, the first great inventor, and dwells upon the use of his inventions in the defense of the city of Syracuse. It also tells of the discovery of the Archimedes principle and of ancient Greek inventions.

The age of Galileo and his battle for truth in introducing the telescope come next. Then Torricelli and the barometer, Otto von Guericke and the air pump, Robert Boyle and the pressure of air and steam, Pascal and the hydraulic press, and Newton, with his theory of gravitation.

The third chapter of the book begins the eighteenth century, and talks about James Watt's steam engine, Benjamin Franklin's lightning-rod, Galvani's electric current and Volta's electric battery. Most interesting is the story of Count Rumford's experiment with cannon in producing heat without fire, of Davy's safety lamp for miners, of Faraday's electrical discovery of his first electric motor and dynamo.

The great inventions of the nineteenth century are enumerated as dry and storage batteries, the first electric railway, the telegraph, duplex telegraphy, the telephone and phonograph, car engines, steam locomotives and turbines.

The twentieth century period has an outlook for airships, aeroplanes, sub-

marines, monorail cars, wireless telegraphy and telephones, X rays and radium.

The book is admirably illustrated, and its value as to information and instruction is only equaled by the interest of its narration.

"How to Know Architecture."
By Frank E. Wallis, A. A. A. Harper and Brothers, of New York. \$2.00 net.

This very valuable work is divided into the pagan, Christian, intellectual and modern periods in their bearing upon architecture and their relation to it. Human elements in the evolution of different styles of architecture, trade, scientific and Greek factors, are considered in the pagan period, at the close of which the first great transition occurred.

The second period is marked by the birth of Christian architecture, by a second great transition and by the development of the Gothic and flamboyant Gothic in style.

The intellectual period in France covers the time from the Renaissance through James I. to Louis XVI. In England developments were parallel under the Georges.

The fourth or modern period treats of the Georgian architecture in America and the era of decadence here marked by progress in other countries. Every page of the book has pictures illustrative of the text and of a period under consideration. Names and characters of great architects include Sir William Chambers, of England; Chersiphron, the Greek, who built the Temple of Diana; Lord Elgin, of England; William A. Alken and Richard M. Hunt, of America; Henry Holland, of England, and many others.

This book is the first on architecture with American models for illustration. It is a work which even the general reader, as well as those who are professional architects may read with great pleasure and profit.

Ashland News Notes

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Ashland, Va., January 8.—Mr. and Mrs. William Habington of Richmond, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Habington, at the Henry Clay Inn.

Mrs. Hugh Danoon and son have returned home after a visit to Mrs. Charles Bridges.

Miss Gertrude Crenshaw, who has been the guest of Mrs. Barrett Sydney, returned to her home in Richmond on Friday.

Miss Nita Blincoe has entirely recovered from her recent illness.

Misses Birdie DeJarnett and Agnes Wright returned to the Southern Seminary today, after spending the holidays with their parents here.

Miss Emily Wade, who was the guest of Mrs. E. Morgan Shepherd for the German Friday night, has returned home.

Mrs. H. Drewry Kerr entertained the Bridge Class on Friday afternoon.

The Young Ladies' Literary Club met on Thursday, after a postponement of two weeks. Instead of a lecture, which was on the program for the afternoon, Miss Margaret Lee read an interesting paper on "Carthage—Its Importance in the World's Early History. Disputes With Rome, Destruction. Afterwards an informal round table was held on the subject of magazine reviews. At the close of the literary program the tea committee, composed of Misses Stuart Blanton, Margaret Wightman and Marc Newman Jones, served refreshments. The guests of the evening were Misses Emma Blanton, Katherine Kent and Jessie Butler of Charleston, S. C.

The Chesterfield Coterie Club gave a delightful New Year's dance on Thursday night. The auditorium was prettily decorated in festive and college pennants and Christmas greens. Among the dancers were Misses Gertrude Crenshaw, Emily Wade, Grace Vest and Martha Sutherland, of Richmond; Hardenia Redd, of Caroline county; Josephine McKay, of Chicago; Eleanor Scott, of Radford; Katherine Kent, Page Nixon, May Baldwin, Alice Howison, Anne Hunter, Peachy Fleet, Louise Ware, Emma Lee Priddy, Conner Bridges, Augusta Nixon, Julia Wright, Gertrude DeJarnett, Agnes Wright, Ruth Blake, Clark Hootnagle, Elise Cardwell, Messrs. Wright, Harry Lowe, Peartree, Stanley Blanton, Denny Stauff, Frank Bane, Werner, Hunter, Noel, Bain, Worsham, Benson, Walton, Tucker, Sydney, Lewis Blanton, Carlwell, Jones, Ellis, Harisook, Smith, Woods, C. B. Jones, Young, Cox, Addison, Rice, Priddy, Blunt, Woodward, Howard, Battle and Fitzhugh White and Woolfolk. The chaperons were Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Potts, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Scott, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. James Cox, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Blanton, Mr. and Mrs. H. Drewry Kerr, Messdames McDowd, Carr, Wade and Baldwin.

mond; Hardenia Redd, of Caroline county; Josephine McKay, of Chicago; Eleanor Scott, of Radford; Katherine Kent, Page Nixon, May Baldwin, Alice Howison, Anne Hunter, Peachy Fleet, Louise Ware, Emma Lee Priddy, Conner Bridges, Augusta Nixon, Julia Wright, Gertrude DeJarnett, Agnes Wright, Ruth Blake, Clark Hootnagle, Elise Cardwell, Messrs. Wright, Harry Lowe, Peartree, Stanley Blanton, Denny Stauff, Frank Bane, Werner, Hunter, Noel, Bain, Worsham, Benson, Walton, Tucker, Sydney, Lewis Blanton, Carlwell, Jones, Ellis, Harisook, Smith, Woods, C. B. Jones, Young, Cox, Addison, Rice, Priddy, Blunt, Woodward, Howard, Battle and Fitzhugh White and Woolfolk. The chaperons were Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Potts, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Scott, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. James Cox, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Blanton, Mr. and Mrs. H. Drewry Kerr, Messdames McDowd, Carr, Wade and Baldwin.

Eye-Glasses AND Spectacles

As we adjust, them are correct, neat, comfortable and substantial. Lowest charges in all cases. Prescription work our specialty, with complete manufacturing plant on the premises.

The S. GALESKI Optical Co.

MAIN AND BROAD AND EIGHTH AND THIRD

Kodak Headquarters

War

The germs of disease is what we are continually fighting. Scientifically constructed Sanitary Plumbing Fixtures are playing a prominent part in the battle for good health. See that your family is protected. Let us show you the fittings.

McGraw-Yarbrough Co. Plumbers' Supplies

122 S. Eighth St., - Richmond, Va.

Out-of-town orders shipped quickly.

Direct Action Gas Ranges Have No Equal Sold Only by Ryan, Smith & Co.

Sauers THE BEST FLAVORING

SAUERS THE BEST FLAVORING

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

PRESERVES

The home-made kind, in which only the best selected fresh ripe fruits and pure sugars are used with the best recipe to retain the fruit's natural flavor.

75c quart jar.

Hermann Schmidt

504-8 E. Broad Street.

Phones: Monroe 101 to 106.

Start the New Year Right

By getting the best helps on the Sunday School Lessons for the year, such as:

Prisoners' Notes for 1911. \$1.00
Tarbell's Notes for 1911. 1.00
Arnold's Commentary for 1911. 50
The Gift of the Lesson, Torrey. 25
Teaching of the Lesson. Morgan. 25

Wilde's Pictures, Illustrating the Lessons for the year, 60 in the set. 50

Also many other books of great interest and value to Sunday school teachers and scholars.

Presbyterian Book Store,

212-214 N. Sixth Street.